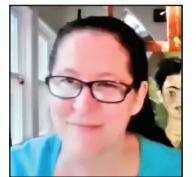


Local Company,
p.8



Virtual Drawing,
p.11



PHOTO COURTESY MICHAEL JANTZ MOON

MCF and DCV staff pose with bags to go. From left, Leah and Michael Jantz Moon of DC Vegan, Pastor Jeff Warner and Kevin Hayman of MCF Church

DC Vegan and MCF Church Partner to Feed Greenbelt

by Callie Tansill-Suddath

Este artículo está disponible en español en nuestra página web www.greenbeltnewsreview.com.

A few weeks ago, Michael Moon, Leah Moon and Jeff Warner were strangers. Now, the three are collaborating to feed residents of Greenbelt during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Feed Greenbelt initiative offers prepared meals for pickup at the New Deal Café on Wednesdays and Saturdays. There is no cost for meals, but those interested must register online at mcfcc.org/feedgreenbelt.

When news spread in late March of the predicted surge in COVID-19 cases in Prince

George's County, Michael Moon, who, with Leah runs the DC Vegan catering company, felt compelled to do something to help the community access nutritious meals. He says, "I was seeing all of the things going on nationally with José Andrés

See **FEED**, page 6

2021 Budget

Recreation Department Celebrates Wins, Plans Uncertain Future

by Matt Arbach

Members of the Recreation Department summarized a very successful previous year, both in programs and attendance, and introduced their proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2021 at a Greenbelt City Council work-session on May 4. Council and recreation staff agreed that much of what is proposed will need

to be rethought in terms of the ever-changing circumstances of the pandemic, something on which staff is already at work. Recreation staff were excited to share the virtual programs now available and anticipated as the department faces these new challenges.

Recreation Supervisor Greg

Varda extolled his "resilient and dedicated staff," saying that the pandemic was at the forefront of their current deliberations on programming.

Varda began with a condensed overview of the past year's accomplishments prior to the onset of the COVID-19 shutdown. These included: a 10-week summer drop-in program at

See **RECREATION**, page 6

What Goes On

Monday, May 18
8:30 p.m. Budget Worksession: Final Budget Review
Wednesday, May 20
8 p.m. Worksession: Friends of the Greenbelt Museum

All meetings are virtual. See the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov for agendas and information on public participation in these meetings.



PHOTO BY BETH NORDEN

COVID-19 has us all off balance, so 5-year-old Will Wertz built a backyard balance beam. See more coping stories on page 12.

2021 Budget

Council Reviews Pre-pandemic Public Safety Budget of \$12M

by Diane Oberg

Greenbelt spends more on public safety than any other budget category. It accounts for more than a third of the expenditures in the Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) budget proposed by City Manager Nicole Ard. Under her proposal, the city would spend \$12 million for public safety, 36.4 percent of total city expenditures. Of this, \$11.5 million was proposed for police, \$313,500 for animal control and \$5,000 each for the Berwyn Heights and Branchville fire departments, who respond to calls in some parts of the city. In addition, the budget calls for continuing to transfer \$120,000 a year to a reserve

fund to aid the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad in purchasing equipment.

Revenue

But that budget was completed before the coronavirus and the state and county business closures and stay-at-home orders slashed the city's expected revenues. City staff have estimated that these could reduce revenue in the current fiscal year, which ends on June 30, by up to \$1.5 million and up to \$3.9 million in the first half of FY21.

Shortly before the April 29 budget worksession ended,

See **BUDGET**, page 7



PHOTO BY CATHIE MEETRE

A CERT volunteer assisting from Annapolis watches as a market visitor passes through the mask check and hand sanitizer station.

50th Anniversary Celebrating A Supreme Court Decision

by Mary Lou Williamson

In May 1970 the U.S. Supreme Court, in a unanimous decision, vindicated the Greenbelt News Review's reporting of two city council meetings which had led to a \$2 million libel suit in 1966, *Bresler v Greenbelt News Review*.

Later this year the News Review plans to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the May 18, 1970 decision that held we were "performing our wholly legitimate function as a community newspaper" (see archive.org/details/GNR1970052101).

The News Review, generally a four-page newspaper during the 1960s, was tightly focused on actions of the city council and the board of Greenbelt Homes, Inc., the cooperative that then comprised most of the housing in Greenbelt, plus whatever general community news would fit. The paper, also a cooperative, was staffed by volunteers who received minimal dividends

to cover out-of-pocket expenses and it struggled, from time to time, to pay the printshop, leading to a series of house-to-house fundraisers.

In 1965, real estate developer Charles Bresler sought city support for his zoning request to the county planning board. He wanted to develop a parcel in the North End of town. The newspaper covered his appearance before council as he made his request, and again two weeks later as council rejected that request. At that time, Bresler was building single family homes in the Lakeside neighborhood and represented investors who owned several large parcels in Greenbelt. The newspaper had recently run several small stories of complaints by purchasers of the Lakeside homes about their difficulties in getting construction problems resolved.

See **ANNIVERSARY**, page 4

Editorial

Greenbelt News Review’s Historic Role
Defending First Amendment Rights

May 18 marks an important anniversary, not only for the News Review and for Greenbelt, but for the right of freedom of the press in the United States. Fifty years ago, on May 18, 1970, the U.S. Supreme Court held unanimously that the Greenbelt News Review had not committed libel in accurately reporting what occurred at a public meeting. (See article, page 1).

This decision has become an important part of legal precedent in many freedom of the press cases. A free society depends on its free press so that citizens may hold their leaders accountable for the decisions they make and for their behavior in office.

It is a familiar yet unfortunate occurrence to see press freedom being curtailed or outright stopped by authoritarian governments. Sadly, even in democracies such as ours, press freedom can be under attack. Too often, the accusation of fake news can serve to make people inappropriately question the accuracy and truth of how the press reports the news, as well as to try to hide abuses of power by those entrusted by the electorate to lead. Also, freedom of the press can be misused by self-proclaimed “news” organizations to publish material that does not attempt to be unbiased but is actually a particular opinion posing as objective news reporting.

This 50th anniversary of the News Review’s Supreme Court victory gives Greenbelters an opportunity to celebrate this important American right of allowing and respecting a free press, and to be vigilant to weigh all news reporting and evaluate its sources, its logic and its veracity. The Washington Post has begun an initiative highlighting organizations around the world that support freedom of the press. You can read their inspiring stories at [washingtonpost.com/pressfreedom](https://www.washingtonpost.com/pressfreedom).

Letters to the Editor

Keep Your Distance

While walking the lake the other day, I was shocked to find a number of unmasked individuals invading my 6’ social distancing perimeter. As our elected officials say, the importance of social distance and sheltering in place for health cannot be overemphasized. Just think how many lives may have been saved had such protocols been imposed.

The next time I ventured about the lake I brought with me a small horn that I sounded any time someone got too close. It worked like a charm. Hopefully the horn protocol will become part of the new normal. So if you hear a toot, give a hoot, and keep your distance!

Rhoda Bloom

Safe While Running?

On Saturday, May 9 my teenage daughter was on a run. She turned from Ridge onto Plateau Place and as she did so she saw a truck heading out of Plateau to Ridge. The driver then turned around and returned down Plateau Place following my daughter. My daughter turned around to head out of Plateau Place but the truck turned around and followed her. She acted as though she was going to turn right on Ridge from Plateau and when the truck also turned right, she turned and sprinted the other direction down Ridge towards Northway, where luckily she found an adult who stood with her as she called me. While my daughter was standing with that adult, the truck approached, and the driver began gesturing as though trying to get the adult to leave my daughter unattended. Thankfully, she did not. We are truly grateful for that neighbor who protected my daughter from the extremely aggressive behavior of the driver.

We called the Greenbelt Police immediately after this incident occurred and were told that they could do nothing about it since the police didn’t see the incident occur and the man didn’t physically touch my daughter.

Thank goodness my daughter had a cell phone with her, that she had a neighbor to protect her and that it was still daylight. I shudder to think how this incident could have ended if it had happened to a younger person or when there were no other people

around.

We love Greenbelt and have always felt very safe here. However, after this incident we recommend keeping a cell phone handy at all times, always let someone know where you are going, run with a buddy if possible, and don’t be afraid to ask for help.

Name withheld by request

Market Thanks

The Greenbelt Farmers Market offers heart-felt thanks to all those who helped so much to bring the first market of this season to a safe fruition. First, thanks to the city and council. City Manager Nicole Ard mobilized her forces for us and coordinated efforts by Jim Sterling, Terri Hruby, Anne Belton, Greg Varda, Stephen Parks, Beverly Palau and Gilberto Cabrera. Kudos too for Chief Richard Bowers, Captain Pracht and the officers of the Greenbelt police who gave us that extra sense of security. Ms. Ard also mobilized the Greenbelt Citizens Emergency Response Team, whose lead, Brindisi Chan, in turn drew reinforcements from Anne Arundel and Annapolis Teams. Councilmembers lent their support too. It was a tour de force of local government pitching in to make something important to its citizens both safe and successful.

Our thanks also to the Prince George’s County Department of Permits, Inspections and Enforcement’s (DPIE) staff, particularly William Edelin and Clarence Mosely, who materially assisted us in navigating their permit system. Hats off to DPIE Inspector Larry Long who was most helpful in checking us out. Three cheers for the Prince George’s County Fire Department Battalion Chief James Riley who made sure we’d not burst into flames.

High fives to Kim Rush Lynch, Sydney Daigle and their colleagues for setting up a key meeting crucial to coordinating county interactions and keeping us posted.


Lastly, a rousing thanks to our patrons and volunteers who came out in force to celebrate spring’s bounty at the market. Well-behaved, and keen to shop – what more can a market ask?

Next week we encourage market-goers to consider coming a little later. The market is much less crowded later and your neighbors will not have bought everything.

Come again.

The Greenbelt Farmers Market Board: Terry Kucera, Carissa Ralbovsky, Anne Marigza, Carol MacAdam, Alicia Baker, Cathie Meetre and Rahul Mehta


See LETTERS, page 4



A bat rests on a tree at the east forebay of the Lake.

PHOTO BY JIM SHAFFER

Pete Reppert



I JUST FOUND OUT WHAT "SOCIAL DISTANCING" MEANS.

Don't Send Us Mail

Due to recent USPS delivery issues, please don't send us mail. Payments or other items can be dropped thru the mail slot in our outer door. Please use email to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com for letters and other written materials. If you have sent us payments since April 27, please contact us at business@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Correction

Jim Cooley and his wife Brenda formerly lived on Lastner Lane in Greenbelt. They moved to Riderwood a few years ago. Daughter Debbie lives in Greenbelt.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Community Calendar: www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/calendar

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Elaine Skolnik, President, 1977-1985

Mary Lou Williamson, Editor Emerita

Gary Childs, Editor

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DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and Classified Ads - 8 p.m. Tuesday. Display Ads 4 p.m. Monday, 8 p.m. Tuesday if camera ready. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$50/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 -10 p.m.

Community Events

Local Visual Artists Virtual Studio Tour

Visual artists are invited to participate in a Virtual Open Studio Tour at the June 7 Artful Afternoon. Participants will be scheduled to host a brief home/studio visit live online. The tour will feature adult artists who live, work, study or play in Greenbelt – including but not limited to the Community Center’s artists in residence. Artists are encouraged to sign up early for more information at greenbeltnmd.gov/arts.

City of Greenbelt arts programs are sponsored in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.

Greenbelt Unplugged Explores Yoga Nidra

Greenbelt Unplugged’s Mindfulness series continues on Sunday, May 17 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in an exploration of Yoga Nidra. In this form of meditation, participants are guided to explore the various layers of the embodied human experience and the underlying presence or pure awareness that humans also are. No yoga or meditation experience is necessary.

This event will be held over Zoom. To get the link, visit the website at greenbeltunplugged.org or email nmcfarb@gmail.com.

Time Bank Hosts Talk On Fraught Topics

On Sunday, May 24 from 3 until 4:30 p.m. the Greenbelt Time Bank will host a discussion on Difficult Conversations: Talking Across the Lines. The discussion will be via a Zoom link and is open to non-Time Bank members. Participants must register in advance by contacting Linda Warren Seely at lwseely@gmail.com.

With the political divide currently experienced in the U.S. ever widening, with concerns about the COVID-19 crisis and with increased social distancing, the ability to communicate effectively is or can be significantly compromised. For those who have ever had to have a difficult conversation, or are facing the need to have one, the group will explore strategies for having them and tips on how to avoid becoming overwhelmed.

GAC Cabaret On Facebook

Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC) is hosting a virtual cabaret on Facebook, where participants can post weekly videos of themselves singing a song based on a different theme each week. To join the group, go to Facebook and search for GAC virtual cabaret.

Democratic Club To Meet Via Zoom

On Thursday, May 21 at 7 p.m., the Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club will hold its first membership meeting since February, but due to the coronavirus, it’ll be via Zoom. To learn how to access the meeting, refer to the club’s website at rooseveltclub.com. The meeting’s topic will be a review of the State’s 2020 legislative session. Participating will be Senator Paul Pinsky and Delegate Nicole Williams. Delegates Anne Healey and Alonzo Washington have also been invited.

The club is also contacting members and folks at large from the area regarding joining the club. Those wishing to join or renew their membership can pay on the club’s website or mail a check to Roosevelt Democratic Club, PO Box 824, Greenbelt MD 20768.

The club reminds all voters to vote by mail in the June 2 primary. Ballots must be postmarked by June 2; no stamp is needed. Ballots were mailed automatically to all registered Democratic and Republican voters. Anyone who has not received a ballot by mail should call the Prince George’s County Board of Elections at 301-341-7300.

The club also stresses the importance of everyone completing the Census form, which every household should have received by mail. The form can be mailed back or people can complete the census online at 2020census.gov.

For any questions, contact Konrad Herling, club president, at 301-345-9369.

Storytelling in ASL Crowdcast Saturdays

The Prince George’s County Memorial Library System, in partnership with the Old Greenbelt Theatre, offers Storytelling with ASL (American Sign Language) hosted by Erikson Young on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. on Crowdcast. The virtual program, recommended for ages 2 to 5, will continue for the duration of the public health emergency.

Go to pgcmls.info/virtual-events to find the link on Saturday mornings for an ASL reading adventure.

On Being A World Traveler Without Ever Leaving Home

by Deanna Dawson and Cathie Meetre

Many Greenbelters are disappointed to have had to cancel or postpone planned travel. News Review staffers Deanna Dawson and Cathie Meetre offer a recommendation: travel through reading.

Instead of biking through Portugal in April, Meetre was swash-buckling off the Iberian Peninsula with Captain Aubrey and Steven Maturin in the Master and Commander series by Patrick O’Brien. It is particularly fortuitous that O’Brien’s writing allows Meetre to participate in Aubrey’s adventures remotely, since she would surely be prostrated by seasickness in real life.

Dawson recently spent time – at a safe distance – in Venice, where parts of Gun Island, by

Indian writer Amitav Ghosh, are set. She especially enjoys books set in faraway locations. In the weeks ahead, she’ll be “traveling” to Russia, Turkey, Denmark, Scotland, Ireland, Spain and Colombia. Although Dawson also reads non-fiction books, she finds that fiction immerses her in the culture, history and geography of the regions where stories are set. Take that, coronavirus!

Dawson hopes the Greenbelt Library reopens before she finishes her stack of checked-out books. She prefers not to start reading the books she purchased in used book sales at Labor Day Festivals – after all, she selected those to take along when she really can set off on travel again.

Although the Greenbelt Library is closed until further notice, eBooks and audiobooks still can be checked out at pgcmls.info (see Catalog).

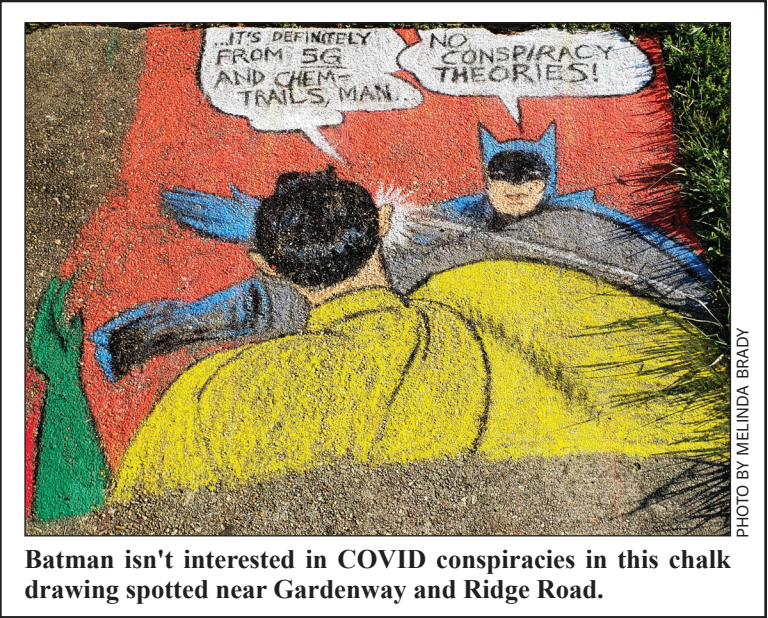
Reading Suggestions:

Dawson recommends books by international authors. Her current reading includes books by Leila Aboulela (Sudan), Boris Akunin (Russia), Sara Blaedel (Denmark), Javier Cercas (Spain), Orhan Pamuk (Turkey), Sally Rooney (Ireland) and Juan Gabriel Vasquez (Colombia). Or, search the internet for international authors in your favorite book genre.

Meetre Picks

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo. Go on an intense journey with Lisbeth Salander – tiny but lethal – as she seeks out her exploiter in a psychological thriller set in 1990s Sweden. This trilogy by Stieg Larsson will calm itchy feet for days.

Dune. Set in a warp-drive future, this series by Frank Herbert comprises six books and as for miles per day, the sky’s the limit. The action plays out on Arrakis, a desert planet that is the only producer of mélange – the worm-based spice product on which this space-based future relies. But what a worm.



Batman isn't interested in COVID conspiracies in this chalk drawing spotted near Gardenway and Ridge Road.

OGT Film Discussion

The Old Greenbelt Theatre hosts film discussions via Zoom every Sunday at 2 p.m. On Sunday, May 17, the Flick of the Week film discussion will be The Stranger (1946, 94 minutes, TV-14), directed by Orson Welles. This film is in the public domain, and a standard definition version can be viewed at greenbelttheatre.org/film/flick-of-the-week/. High definition versions of the film are available with subscription on Netflix and Amazon Prime Video, or on Kanopy (with library card).

Go to greenbelttheatre.org/film/flick-of-the-week/ to register for the film discussion to receive information on how to access the Zoom call. If you do not have internet access, you can participate in the film discussion via phone. Call Kelly at 301-329-2034 to request access information.

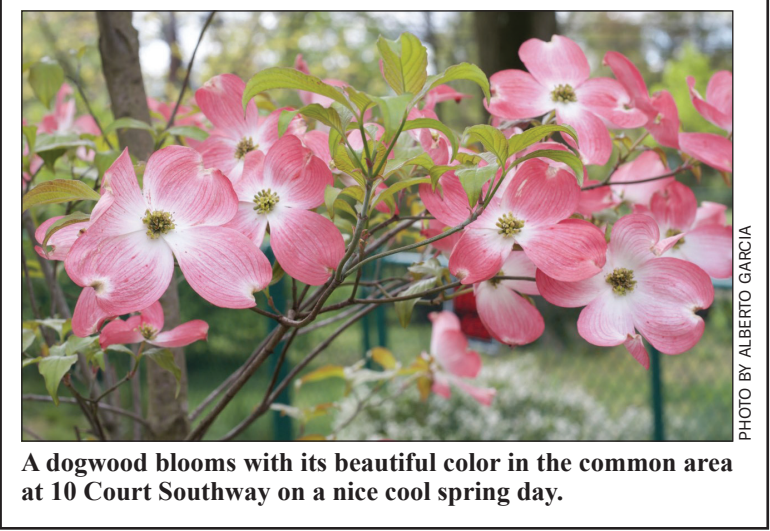
The Stranger is about a Nazi fugitive hiding in Connecticut who tries to keep his identity hidden from his naïve new wife while a dogged investigator pursues him relentlessly.



More Community Events are located throughout the paper.



Iris bloom in a riot of color on Hanover Parkway.



A dogwood blooms with its beautiful color in the common area at 10 Court Southway on a nice cool spring day.

GATe Program Schedule Friday May 15 - Thursday May 21		
SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE		
7 am	From the GATe Archive	• Selected Programming
8 am	Democracy Now!	• Repeat of Yesterday's Program
9 am	GATe Classic Film ★ Romance • 1938	• Pygmalion • Leslie Howard • Wendy Hiller • Directed by Leslie Howard & Anthony Asquith
11 am	From the GATe Archive	• Selected Programming
12 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
1 pm	Science Bowl PGCPs	• Kids Science Quiz Show
2 pm	From the GATe Archive	• Selected Programming
3 pm	GATe Classic Film ★ Romance • 1938	• Pygmalion • Leslie Howard • Wendy Hiller • Directed by Leslie Howard & Anthony Asquith
5 pm	Science Bowl PGCPs	• Kids Science Quiz Show
6 pm	From the GATe Archive	• Selected Programming
7 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
8 pm	GATe Classic Film ★ Romance • 1938	• Pygmalion • Leslie Howard • Wendy Hiller • Directed by Leslie Howard & Anthony Asquith
10 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
11 pm	From the GATe Archive	• Selected Programming
12 am	From the GATe Archive	• Selected Programming
GREENBELT ACCESS TELEVISION		
WATCH US on VERIZON Fios 19 or COMCAST 77 STREAMING LIVE at www.greenbeltaccessstv.org/channel-live-stream		

Letters continued

Wallet Safely Home

I want to thank the person who found my wallet that I dropped at the Greenbelt Farmers Market on Sunday morning, the market staff members who received it and gave it to a Greenbelt Police officer who knocked on my door to return it to me before I even realized it was missing! My heart is filled with gratitude and many thanks for your good deed. Acts of kindness like this are just one of the many reasons I love living in Greenbelt.

JoEllen Sarff

Class Disparity in TP?

I never would have written this email three months ago. I normally would be thinking and writing about the normal liberal progressive issues. I thought it was nothing at first that my wealthier co-workers who live in more affluent communities were finding toilet paper in their stores on a regular basis and available all day.

But having heard the same from several people living in both Maryland and Virginia, I'm starting to think there's something to

it. It can't be a coincidence that Greenbelt, a less affluent, more densely populated and working-class neighborhood, still doesn't have toilet paper and paper towels stocked in their stores at anything approaching an adequate supply. Sure, some comes in, but it's gone soon after the stores open.

I know that grocery store workers are risking their lives every day they come to work and I'm very grateful. This is not a criticism of these essential workers.

I'm at higher risk so I am trying to limit my trips into public places. Having to go to several stores in a useless attempt to find paper products is not a safe option for me. I've tried Safeway, Co-op, Giant and Target and not once since March 16 have I found any paper products except some facial tissues and a couple packages of napkins.

I think when this is all said and done, one of the many things we will need to examine is the disparity in the supply chain between affluent and poorer working-class neighborhoods during this crisis.

Meghan Newkirk



COVID-19 couldn't stop the birthday celebration of John Henry Jones, 92. While he stood outside well-wishers sang happy birthday, stopped by for a social-distanced chat or honked as they drove by. There may have also been a parade of police cars tooting their horns.

Three cheers to Bob Spear who was hospitalized with COVID-19 in Morgantown, W.Va. Spear was very ill but has now been home several days and, according to Kim Kash and Michael Cooney, longtime family friends and neighbors, is doing well. Bob and his wife, Mary Helen, and sons Eric, Brendan and Timmy lived first in GHI in the single digits of Ridge Road, and then moved up the street to the three-digit end of Ridge.

Share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



PHOTO BY BETTY SONNEVELDT

John Henry Jones celebrates his 92nd birthday COVID-19 style with family, friends and neighbors social distancing outside or driving by and honking.

ANNIVERSARY continued from page 1

Bresler was also then running for Comptroller of Maryland on the Republican ticket that included Spiro T. Agnew in his bid for election as governor of Maryland.

His \$2 million libel suit against the newspaper and its board president, Alfred Skolnik, the board believed, was an effort to shut down the News Review's voice, which Bresler found embarrassing, especially in light of his run for office. He claimed the newspaper was making him "the most hated man in Greenbelt."

The newspaper had meager resources to fight a libel suit. It knew the city council stories dealing with Bresler's request and then council's denial, were fair and accurate – meaning the paper had done nothing wrong. In view of New York Times v. Sullivan, a then recent decision, the paper understood our case would be important and should not be lost but did not have the wherewithal to win it. In January, 1968, Skolnik took our story to the Washington Post. The Post agreed the case was important and asked their

law firm, Royall, Koegel, Rogers and Wells, to take the case pro bono. The lawyer assigned was Roger A. Clark. He was told by the firm that he was to work after hours and on weekends.

In January 1968 the case was lost at the county level and again at the Maryland Court of Appeals in 1969. The U.S. Supreme Court agreed to hear the case. Their unanimous decision came down on May 18, 1970, in favor of the News Review and established an

important new precedent in first amendment interpretation as it relates to freedom of the press. The language in this decision has been frequently invoked since then.

Following the Supreme Court's decision, newspapers across the country ran the story with big bold frontpage headlines and identified Roger A. Clark as the attorney. His next job for the Washington Post was the Pentagon Papers in 1971.



"The purpose of justice is the appearance of unity among men. The ocean of divine wisdom surgeth within this exalted word, while the books of the world cannot contain its inner significance."
— Bahá'í Writings

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918
Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com www.greenbeltbahais.org

Greenbelt Community Church

Our Sunday Worship Services are Cancelled until Further Notice



Check us out on Facebook Live Sunday at 10:30 AM
<https://www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD>

1 Hillside Road 301-474-6171 Rev. Glenyce Grindstaff

Mishkan Torah Congregation



10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm
Saturday morning services at 10:00am
All services and activities are currently virtual
For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors

Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)

301-474-9410

Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor

In person worship services cancelled for now.
Live streaming on our Facebook page [@mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc).
10 a.m. Sunday mornings



The Bible Says...

The Lord is my light
and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
Psalm 27:1



Sunday Worship Services
10a-11a ONLINE
[MCFcc.org/online](https://www.mcfcc.org/online)

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org



Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



May 17 10 a.m.
"Don't be Afraid of Some Change"

Chris McCann, Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration; with Worship Associate Samantha Evans

What exactly does change mean in a time of pandemic? What's changed for you recently, and what changes might you choose when life resumes? Let's explore!
Streaming information at <http://bitly.com/TeamPBUUC>

St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church

www.sthughofgrenoble.org

Visit our website for daily updates and spiritual reflections.

Celebrate Mass Live on Facebook:
Sunday — 11:00 am, Monday through
Thursday — 12:00 noon, Friday — 7:15 am,
and Saturday — 9:00 am

"Jesus Christ is risen, Alleluia"



Worship with us at Greenbelt Baptist Church

Biblical
Confessional
Reformed
Gospel Centered

Live online services
Sundays at 10:30am
Wednesdays at 7:00pm
www.greenbeltbaptist.org
Instagram/Facebook/YouTube

<<101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt MD>>

www.greenbeltbaptist.org

301-474-4212

@GreenbeltBaptist

City Notes

Three kittens were born at the shelter, joining two resident cats and three fostered kittens. The city resumed trap, neuter and release of feral cats.

Horticultures/Parks removed tables from Buddy Attick Park and the Braden Field tennis courts were cleaned for reopening.

Cheryl Conrad, aquatic and fitness coordinator, retired with best wishes from all. With the Aquatic & Fitness Center closed during May, staff continued facility improvements and training.

Youth programs and Community Center staff encouraged community groups to add content to the Virtual Recreation Center.

Assistance by Phone

AARP help with taxes will not be rescheduled this year in Greenbelt. For information on tax sites as they open, call 888-227-7669.

Phone calls to the GIVES office are being answered remotely as the Community Center remains closed.

Virtual Programs At the Library

All of the Prince George’s County Memorial Library System’s virtual programs are listed at pgcmls.info/virtual-events. Virtual events produced by the library are broadcast on Crowdcast, with select additional streams to Facebook, YouTube and Periscope.

The library’s virtual programs frequently feature special guests from partner organizations.

Spanish language virtual programs are now available on a weekly basis. They include *Biblioníños*, a biweekly Spanish read-aloud program for children ages 2 to 5, and a bilingual English/Spanish read-aloud on Saturday at 9:30 a.m.

On Tuesdays at 4 p.m., the library offers a weekly “Café a las cuatro” series of discussions in Spanish with special guests from local government to discuss resources and current issues.

Tea Time on Zoom

The Greenbelt Community Tea continues to meet weekly on Thursdays at 7 p.m. for a purely social time, to help counteract cabin fever and to get to know your neighbors. Make a cup of tea and hop onto Zoom.

Participants talk about anything and everything.

Find the group on Facebook at facebook.com/pg/greenbelttimebank/events/.

The Facebook event includes the link to the Zoom call. Those not on Facebook can email greenbelt.timebank@gmail.com to request the Zoom link.

The Community Tea is not a Greenbelt Time Bank event, but they are offering their resources to make this successful.

Toastmasters Meets Online Wednesdays

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club has gone virtual. Those interested in improving communication or leadership skills are invited to join online or by phone every first, third and fifth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Find details for joining in remotely at greenbelt.toastmastersclubs.org.



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

UPCOMING VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Monday, May 18 at 8:30pm, **BUDGET WORK SESSION-FINAL BUDGET REVIEW**, will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996 and streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv

Tuesday, May 19 at 7:00pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TREES**, *On the Agenda: Planning for the Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial Tree dedication and Arbor Day Proclamation*

Wednesday May 20 at 7:30pm, **ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD**, *On the Agenda: Greenbelt NCO Zone*

Wednesday May 20 at 7:30pm, **PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**, *On the Agenda: Mayor Pro Tem Jordan’s Update, Recreation Department Update, Design for 2 Court Research Playground, Recreation Department Update*


Wednesday May 20 at 8:00pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION w/ Friends of the Greenbelt Museum**, will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996 and streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv

ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION IS POSTED ON THE MEETINGS CALENDAR AT WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV



GREENBELT CARES
presents
THE DRAMA CLUB
**Dispute Resolution
And
Managing Anger**

Online
Mondays May 18 – July 13
(no class Memorial Day May 25)
Monday evenings:
9 sessions 7 – 8:15pm, **FREE**
Adult Group, Ages 18 +
Contact us to Enroll: cares@greenbeltmd.gov
Certificates of completion awarded for participation in ALL NINE sessions.



Parenting During Corona Virus

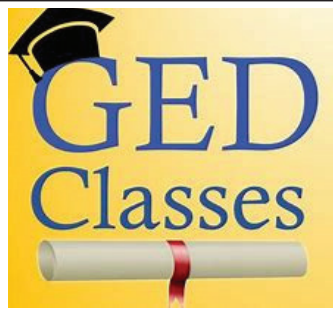
Online Classes:
[Dealing with Stress \(May 13 & 20\)](#)
[Making Smart Money Decisions \(May 27 & June 3\)](#)

Be the Best Parent You Can Be!
Time: 5pm - 6:00pm
To register email: cares@greenbeltmd.gov

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Public Safety Advisory Committee, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, Youth Advisory Committee

For more information call 301- 474-8000



NEW! VIRTUAL GREENBELT CARES RESOURCES AND VIRTUAL GED CLASSES NOW AVAILABLE.

Greenbelt CARES has now made some of its services available virtually including a large list of resources on mental health, domestic violence, food resources and more to help you get through the Covid19 crisis and GED classes. Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/cares

For City of Greenbelt news, information, services and more visit WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV
Follow us on Facebook & Twitter



Join Greenbelt Recreation for a
CELEBRATION OF SPRING
Saturday, May 16, 2:00pm-4:00pm
Join us for a fun afternoon featuring music, magic, art, a local star interview, and the launch of Quarantine Crazy, a comedy reality series featuring Greenbelt Recreation Coordinator Brian Butler. A zoom link will be sent to all registered participants to access the live music and magic show. Visit the Greenbelt Virtual Recreation Center for event registration details and links to live performances, art projects, video releases, and more. Registration for Celebration of Spring live events is required in advance <https://bit.ly/2WNUU29>

**Summer Help
Public Works Maintenance Worker II**

Salary \$14.11/hr. Performs a variety of tasks requiring manual labor. May perform basic landscaping tasks such as mowing lawns, raking leaves, planting shrubbery, leveling playing fields, cutting and pruning trees, maintaining playgrounds and clearing dead wood. May perform traffic safety tasks such as the maintenance of traffic signs, street painting, and patching streets by pouring and shoveling asphalt and concrete. A High School diploma or equivalent is required. Must possess a Maryland State Driver's License in good standing. A City of Greenbelt application is required. To apply, log onto www.greenbeltmd.gov.

CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO ONE OF THE CITY’S CHARITABLE FUNDS

The City of Greenbelt receives no portion of these funds nor does it charge an administrative fee for processing the donations

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND TO ASSIST ST. HUGH’S FOOD PANTRY: This fund is overseen by the Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association (GILA). The St. Hugh Food Pantry will also take food donations that are dropped outside of the church office at 135 Crescent Road. Thank you so much for your help!

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND: Established to accept and disburse donations received to assist Greenbelt residents to pay rent to avoid possible eviction. Approximately a dozen individuals receive assistance from these funds each fiscal year.

Now you may donate online at www.greenbeltmd.gov/donations.

You can also mail a money order or check to: City of Greenbelt, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt Road 20770. Please notate which fund in the notes section of the check. You may also use the drop box on the flag side of the building. Receipts will be provided and mailed out to you.

CENSUS 2020

Your Community is Counting on You to Fill out the Census !

Who Counts in Greenbelt?

Property Owners and Renters

Children, including infants

College students who live off-campus in Greenbelt

Non-Citizens

**EVERYONE** living in Greenbelt on April 1, 2020

If our community is undercounted, we miss out on **\$1,825** per person each year

The Census is used to distribute billions of federal funds for hospitals, roads, and other vital programs

Complete the Census today online at www.my2020census.gov or by phone at 844-330-2020



This project has been financed in part with State funds from Maryland's 2020 Census Grant Program. Project content or opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the State of Maryland or any of its instrumentalities

RECREATION continued from page 1

Springhill Lake Recreation Center (SHLRC); the variety-filled Eagle Vision summer program; the free summer lunch program, partially funded by a grant from County Council Chair Todd Turner; the Paradyme Management donation of 10 laptops to the SHLRC computer lab; the STEMtastic partner program with the Greenbelt Library; equipment, class and Wi-Fi additions to the Aquatic & Fitness Center; pre-school enrichment classes; STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) programs; quarterly art displays, highlighting Greenbelt achievers; exercise/social groups; Black History Month series; 67 SAGE classes; a bike rodeo; and a wide array of sports and arts classes for all ages, as well as for special needs residents. All programs had high rates of attendance and documented success.

Arts Supervisor Nicole DeWald shared some of the arts programs that occurred last year. These included a professional development workshop for visual artists, the artist in residence program (of whom seven artists are also recreation instructors), virtual art classes and field trips, and a virtual Artful Afternoon.

Varda highlighted the achievements of staff, including Cynthia Brown, Rebekah Sutfin, Stephen Parks, Di Quynn-Reno and Anne Oudemans, in awards, certification and postings to local recreation organizations. Staff also received instruction in many areas, including mental health, team building and climate change.

Regarding the new Virtual Recreation Center, Varda was confident that Greenbelt’s version was “the best in the state.” He shared that in the last two weeks there were 1,500 hits on the site.

He noted that the recognition group process to determine yearly funding and resources devoted to non-city Greenbelt organizations, like the Farmers Market or the Concert Band, is on hold for the time being due to COVID-19.

Recreation Supervisor Joe McNeal said that the outdoor pool at the Aquatic & Fitness Center

is set to open on June 1. He noted that it was unlikely, due to safety concerns, that the indoor pool would also open at that time. Aquatic & Fitness Center supervisor Stephen Parks was fairly confident that most of the pool staff would return. Social distancing and sanitation protocols will be put in place in the locker rooms.

A July 4th celebration remains uncertain, with neighboring jurisdictions such as Takoma Park, and perhaps Rockville, already moving towards cancellation. Greenbelt Day weekend has suffered cancellations from several of its mainstay entertainments.

Councilmember Emmett Jordan emphasized the need to factor in a three-to-six month closing into the recreation budget to better determine revenue projections. City Treasurer Laura Allen concurred and estimated a \$1.3M to \$1.5M loss in FY 2020. Councilmember Judith Davis stated that 78 percent of recreation revenue comes from spring and summer programming, which is already being impacted, requiring a revision of the budget.

Jordan strongly recommended outreach to the Greenbelt Station community from recreation staff in order to ascertain their recreation needs.

Varda was not ready to announce any alternatives to the traditional summer camps at this time, saying that any virtual option can be problematic as far as preparation is concerned. He added that “we are pretty resilient” and “can change on a dime if we have to.”

In regard to a more typical reopening of city recreation, McNeal responded that a great deal of safety infrastructure and employee testing would need to be in place for that to happen. Councilmember Edward Putens anticipated a phased approach, with safety foremost. Councilmember Rodney Roberts said that even if the state embarked on a broad reopening, the city could still elect to refrain from opening until the pandemic situation is more stable.

Farmers Market Makes Opening Day a Safe and Sunny Success

by Matt Arbach

New Procedures

Details on entering and navigating the market are available online at greenbeltfarmersmarket.org/at-the-market/2020-season#procedures. Requirements include: staying home if experiencing symptoms or fearing exposure, being prepared to pay electronically if at all possible and sending only one person per family to shop. Shoppers must wear a mask, use the hand sanitizer, practice social distancing, pursue a one-way path through the market and refrain from touching any products.

Vendors may not cook but may sell pre-packaged prepared foods to go. Products may not be consumed in the market and shoppers are urged to not linger or form groups.

SNAP Program

The market is still figuring out how best to manage SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) this season as the Maryland Farmers Market Association abruptly closed at the end of April, cancelling the Maryland Market Money program that provided SNAP staffing at the market. Carissa Ralbovsky, the board’s SNAP coordinator, commented that the market remains committed to promoting SNAP and other food equity

programs but with the late notice and the scramble to open at all, SNAP will be playing catch up. The market will, however, honor tokens unused from last season.

Market Day

The Market passed its initial inspections with DPIE and the county fire marshal. Over 550 people attended the market with no incidents of non-compliance. The Greenbelt Police stationed an officer nearby and the GCERT (Greenbelt Community Emergency Response Team) and their colleagues from Annapolis CERT provided surveillance of the area and assisted visitors in observing the rules and circulating through the market.

Moving Forward

The Farmers Market received a number of suggestions from vendors, visitors and GCERT that may result in minor modifications to the traffic pattern or layout. According to Meetre, the vendors are also learning and adapting to the new reality.

She said the Market board was “beyond grateful” for the indispensable help from the city and the county, which went the extra mile to make sure the event was safe and successful. Meetre noted, “That the market could even happen was like a sign that the world was not coming to an end.”



Sitting by the pond on a sunny day

FEED continued from page 1

[who runs World Central Kitchen]. So I was just thinking what would a program like that look like for the community?”

Moon reached out to Mayor Colin Byrd, who put him in touch with others interested in similar altruistic pursuits. He eventually got in contact with Warner, a pastor with the Maryland Christian Fellowship (MCF), who had also been contacting the mayor with a desire to help out. MCF has a long track record of assisting members of the church with food insecurity, and maintains a list of COVID-19 resources on its website (mcfcc.org/covidresources). Warner and the Moons shared a similar vision and in the span of a few weeks were on a fast track to feeding the hungry in Greenbelt.

Everyone involved stresses that the program is truly intended only as a service to others. The food is vegan because it is the



Prepackaged vegan meals wait for lids before going out to feed the hungry in Greenbelt.

Moons’ culinary area of expertise, not because they are trying to encourage anyone to make a lifestyle change during the pandemic. Warner stresses an emphasis on the meals being

free as “Free is good” is the tagline of MCF. Giving, he says, “...best demonstrates God’s love for us.” Sensitive to the stigma that can accompany asking for help, Leah Moon explains the online process of requesting is “very anonymous.”

The program is in its second week now, after a very successful first two distributions. Warner says the team had six families come out to retrieve the 20 or so meals last week, and that eight or 10 families have signed up this week. Warner believes the team has potential to distribute many more meals at one time given adequate time to prepare.

Feed Greenbelt is encouraging more people to sign up for meals to be distributed next week (on

May 20 and 23) and beyond, or to donate to the initiative through the MCF website. Each donation of \$10 goes directly and fully to producing more meals.

GREENBELT



Roaring Success!

Market # 2

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Parking lot behind the New Deal

Early is busy, entry may be restricted!

12:30 to 2 p.m. is more copacetic

- Most long-time vendors will be attending.
- Market conforms strictly to all P.G. health standards – more rigorous than stores.
- Masks required! Hand sanitizer on entry
- Market is one-way circulation, take-out only – no consumption on premises.
- Distancing observed in shopping and queueing. Move right along, please.
- Contactless payment highly desirable.

For more information on vendors, rules, payments and volunteering/donating visit WWW.GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org.

GFM thanks the City of Greenbelt for its help.

2021 Budget

Council Considers Pandemic Public Safety Challenges

by Madison Hunt

During its review of the proposed budget for public safety on Wednesday, April 29, the Greenbelt City Council discussed the growing level of anxiety as the numbers of coronavirus cases increase in Greenbelt and Prince George’s County.

Councilmember Emmett Jordan began the meeting by bringing up the question of new initiatives to protect residents and staff in nursing homes. According to recent statistics, half of the fatalities in Maryland come from nursing homes.

Even though there are no cases reported in Green Ridge House, a Department of Housing and Urban Development Section 8 facility with apartments for adults age 62 or older or with disabilities, Jordan stressed the importance of random testing because of the higher risk COVID-19 presents to Green Ridge residents.

Mayor Colin Byrd said that, in recognition of that concern and the vulnerability in that population, he had emphasized the importance of providing resources for more testing at Green Ridge House.

Another concern is the city’s need to protect essential public safety personnel as they work to keep the community safe. Councilmember Judith Davis asked if members of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad are well equipped with protective gear. Chief Thomas Ray said that they have some

N95 masks with more coming. They plan to re-sanitize the masks as often as possible if the supplies start running low. Davis said, “We definitely need them, especially in the emergency vehicles and the ambulances. It’s very important that you guys are protected.”

The Greenbelt police have seen an influx of mental health calls since the beginning of 2020. According to Captain Tim White, commander of the patrol division, there was an 83 percent increase in mental health calls in the first two months of 2020.

The budget has increased to fund sensitivity training for all sworn personnel, and officers are getting crisis intervention training. They get certified to respond to mental health crises and are trained to de-escalate the situation.

The police department has modified its operations dealing with COVID-19 challenges. “We’re working 9 to 5 as well as 12-hour shifts to provide maximum coverage to our community,” White said. He also noted that the department is responding to 67 percent of their calls by phone, rather than via an officer’s in-person response, to minimize possible staff exposure to the virus. The police bike patrol has been on the front lines of directing residential and traffic activity.

(Madison Hunt is a student of journalism at the University of Maryland.)

BUDGET continued from page 1

Councilmember Emmett Jordan noted that this will be a very difficult year. Council still does not have an estimate of the revenue shortfall. Councilmembers will have to work hard with the city manager to balance the budget.

By law, council must approve a balanced budget by June 10. To get the budget to balance, the city manager has proposed not filling all current vacancies. That step will have a significant impact on the police department, with five positions to be left unfilled including deputy police chief, an animal control officer, a part-time animal control officer, a police records clerk and a half-time parking officer. In addition, two police officer positions will remain vacant for six months. Together, keeping these positions vacant is estimated to save the city \$475,600.

Prior to the pandemic, staffing was proposed to stay at its current level of authorized positions with 53 sworn officers, 18.5 civilian full-time equivalents (FTE) and 3.5 animal control personnel. The department has had difficulty staying fully staffed and identified retention as an area it needs to work on. It currently has 50 officers either on the street or in the academy.

Shorthanded

Among the civilians in the department, the communications section is short three people. These positions do not appear on the list of vacancies to be left open. The records section is also shorthanded with a records clerk position on the list of positions to be left vacant. The animal control

unit, with an authorized strength of 3.5 FTEs, currently has just one staff member. The city manager has proposed leaving one full-time and one part-time animal control officer slots vacant.

Three civilian volunteer groups that work with the police department are seeking the same funding as in the current fiscal year. The Greenbelt Community Emergency Response Team and the Greenbelt Community Animal Response Team are requesting \$1,500 each. The Public Safety Advisory Committee is requesting \$900.

The department has proposed spending \$77,400 on police body cameras. Chief Rick Bowers acknowledged that the cameras and related services are expensive but effective.

Focus

Bowers identified three areas of focus for FY21: retention and recruiting for both sworn and civilian positions, community relations focusing on communications and trust between police and residents, and community policing and responding to the increasing number of mental health-related calls. Captain Tim White reported an 82 percent increase in mental health calls, which decreased since the coronavirus struck. All staff including civilians have been trained in mental health first aid and four officers have received more extensive training.

Council and staff will be finalizing the budget on Monday, May 18 starting at 8:30 p.m. There will be a public hearing on May 26 and the budget will be adopted at the June 8 council meeting.

Community Raises Over \$8K For Scholarship Endowment

by Brogan Gerhart

As of May 7, \$8,550 had been donated to the Virginia W. Beauchamp Scholarship both by anonymous donors and through multiple community gifts, according to Norah Quinn McCormick, assistant director of development for the College of Arts and Humanities at the University of Maryland.

The Beauchamp Scholarship, which was established by the Campus Club in 2016, has provided annual need-based awards of \$750 since its creation for graduate students in the Department of Women’s Studies.

This scholarship is named in honor of University of Maryland Professor Virginia Beauchamp, who founded the university’s Department of Women’s Studies in 1975. She was also a leading member of the Greenbelt News Review for more than 60 years

and an advocate for the community. Beauchamp died in 2019.

In early March, \$14,899 of the \$25,000 endowment goal had been reached. Only two months after the Greenbelt News Review promised to match community donations to the scholarship, up to \$5,000, the matched total rose to \$28,449. Now endowed, the Beauchamp Scholarship will live in perpetuity to support generations of students and has the potential to grow from \$750 a year to \$1,000.

The News Review thanks those who have donated and encourages other members of the community to honor their fellow Greenbelter with any gift they can offer through May 31. The paper will continue to keep readers updated on the scholarship’s growth.

“The simplest way to make a donation is to give online at go.umd.edu/Beauchamp. Otherwise, donations can be mailed to the University of Maryland College Park Foundation (UMCPF) at 4603 Calvert Road, College Park, MD 20740. Make the check out to UMCPF and include ‘Beauchamp Scholarship’ in the check memo,” Quinn McCormick said.

For more information on Virginia Beauchamp’s life and the impact of her scholarship for students in the Department of Women’s Studies, refer to the March 2020 issues of the News Review. Contact Quinn McCormick at 301-405-6485 or naquinn@umd.edu with any questions or concerns.

Brogan Gerhart, the News Review intern for the spring semester, wrote the series of stories about the Virginia Beauchamp Scholarship.

The New Dynamic Governance Website Is Now ADA-Compliant

by Aileen Kroll

The Center for Dynamic Community Governance (CDCG) is delighted to roll out a new and vastly improved website at dynamic-governance.org.

Thanks to a grant from the City of Greenbelt, CDCG secured the services of Mike Carson, a web accessibility specialist and multidisciplinary designer, who:

- a) improved navigation and readability for those who are sighted;
- b) improved access for those with limited vision, for example, by choosing colors with particular contrasts;
- c) facilitated using screen readers by attaching text for all pdfs and graphics; and
- d) improved the site for those with hearing impairments by adding running captions on each video, a hidden description of each picture and a layout that en-



PHOTO COURTESY THE CDCG

ables the screen reader to proceed smoothly down every screen in the website.

CDCG is eager to see all Greenbelt businesses and community organizations update their sites to meet the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act (i.e., be ADA compliant). To learn more, email Carson at mcarson@mikecarsonconsulting.com.

CDCG is launching the site dur-

ing these challenging and uncertain times because digital connections have become, for many of us, our primary link to the world. It is, therefore, more important than ever to provide everyone with full access to the vital communications of our community.

Contact Aileen at aileen@dynamic-governance.org for the Zoom link and to provide feedback on the new site.

Greenbelt Federal Credit Union

SOCIAL DISTANCING / NEW BUSINESS HOURS

until further notice


Due to the evolving COVID-19 pandemic and our state Governor's recommendations, our business hours have been modified.

The branch will be **closed to members on Tuesdays and Thursdays**; you may call to schedule an appointment for loan closings or new account openings. The branch will be open on Mondays and Wednesdays normal business hours, and on Fridays from 9am to 5pm. Thank you for your understanding.

Please remember Social Distancing to keep yourself and our staff safe.

We encourage our members to utilize our electronic services as much as possible. This includes **online banking w/bill pay, visiting our atm to make deposits and withdrawals, and using our mobile app to check your balance.** If you need assistance signing up or using these services please contact us and our staff will be happy to help you.

Thank you for your membership.



Greenbelt FCU

Business

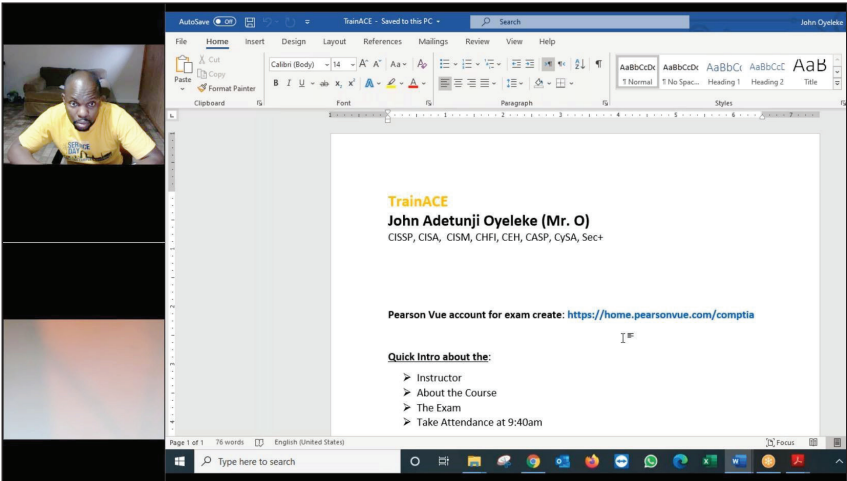
The News Review invites Greenbelt businesses to submit brief announcements for the business column. Tell us about events such as new employees, anniversaries, awards won, new programs, and other newsworthy items. Send brief (40-50 words) items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Local Company Provides IT Training Online During Crisis

When COVID-19 reached Maryland, local IT training company TrainACE had to quickly migrate all its in-person IT training classes to an online format. For General Manager John Walther, it wasn't just a case of keeping the company on track, but a bigger need to continue providing the quality, in-person training that the local community has come to expect over TrainACE's 20 years of operation.

"The first couple of weeks of the shutdown were slow, but as people began to settle in for the long haul, interest in training began to pick up. We've been getting increasing numbers of calls from people wanting to take advantage of their enforced downtime. Some people are already working in IT, but looking to beef up their skills. Others are beginners, looking to get into IT for the first time. All of them are seeking training to secure their futures."

During normal circumstances, TrainACE focuses on providing live, instructor-led IT classes at its offices in Greenbelt and Ashburn, Va. Although there has been a proliferation of internet-based training companies, a large percentage of students still find the personal interaction of a live class makes it easier to learn and retain course material compared to watching canned training videos. So, in moving its classes online, it was critical to keep as



Instructor John Adetunji launches a CompTIA Security+ class.

close to the live and in-person format as possible.

"While live classes cost a little more than many of the other 'canned' online training options, our students benefit greatly from the personal interaction with the instructor and the rest of the class. The live class also provides a structure both in terms of time, and in covering all the exam material, that self-directed online learning doesn't tend to."

At the start of the shutdown, another issue with taking online training was the inability to take the required certification tests. Students were reluctant to train now if they would have to wait several months, or possibly longer, to take the test. This issue, however, has largely been resolved with the major certification organizations adjusting their operations to provide online testing options from students' homes.

TrainACE was founded in

Greenbelt nearly 20 years ago and is proud to be a part of a strong and vibrant community. As Greenbelt and the rest of Maryland work through the current crisis, the staff at TrainACE wishes everyone in the community good health. Those with any questions about IT training can contact them at info@trainace.com.

Suppressed: The Fight To Vote at Reel & Meal

On Monday, May 18, Reel and Meal presents a Robert Greenwald documentary, Suppressed: The Fight to Vote, about the 2018 midterm election in Georgia. The program will be via Zoom; register for the film on Zoom by accessing on this link: <https://tinyurl.com/MayReelandMeal>. Zoom will be accessible at 6:30 p.m. so the film can begin at 7.

Suppressed makes the case that the constitutional right to vote continues to be under siege in America. In the 2018 midterm election in Georgia, which Stacey Abrams lost by less than 55,000 votes, polling place closures, voter purges, missing absentee ballots, extreme wait times and voter ID issues disproportionately prevented students and people of color from casting their ballots. Following the film, guest speakers McKayla Wilkes, who is running for Congress in the 5th District, and two of her campaign managers, Emily Kaplan and Dash Yeatts-Lonske, will address issues pertaining to the Maryland primary election to be held June 2.

DC Vegan of the New Deal Café will prepare a special contactless Reel and Meal Picnic. Visit toasttab.com/new-deal-cafe/v3 to place an order for pick up or delivery. See the ad on this page for the Reel and Meal Picnic details. For more information contact reelandmeal@newdealcafe.com or visit the New Deal Café's e-calendar at newdealcafe.com/events/reel-and-meal.

Reel and Meal, a monthly film series focused on environmental, social justice and animal rights issues, is organized by Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group, Green Vegan Networking, Utopia Film Festival and the Prince George's County Peace & Justice Coalition, who planned this month's film screening.

Read English? Or Spanish? Vote by Mail Instructions

Many voters in Greenbelt have received their vote by mail materials for the Presidential Primary elections. Although ballots are dated April 28, they are to be used in the Tuesday, June 2 election. Everyone should have received instructions for voting in both English and Spanish, but some voters received only one language or the other.

The ballot itself is not a problem since it shows both English and Spanish on the same page. The problem is with two separate pages of important instructions. One sheet is called "Instructions for Voting by Mail" or "Instrucciones para votar por correo." The other sheet is called "Vote

Centers & Ballot Drop Off Locations" or "Centros de votación y locales de entrega de papeletas."

Voters who did not receive these instructions in the language they prefer can go to elections.maryland.gov and, under Vote By Mail Information on the right of the home page, click on Instructions for Voting by Mail in English or Instrucciones para Votar por Correo en español to get a printable copy.

And don't forget: to be counted, voted ballots must either be postmarked no later than June 2 if mailed or handed in at an official drop-off location no later than 8 p.m. on June 2.

PGCPS Virtual Graduation Features Taraji P. Henson

In a Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) system-wide eGraduation Celebration on Saturday, May 30, Golden Globe winner and Emmy nominee Taraji P. Henson will honor and inspire the Class of 2020 as its commencement speaker. Henson, a 1988 graduate of Oxon Hill High School, is famous for her acting roles in Hidden Figures, The Curious Case of Benjamin Button, Empire and Person of Interest.

The Celebration will also feature R&B singer Kenny Latimore, radio host/comedian Joe Clair, NFL cornerback Joe Haden

and local news anchor Taylor Thomas.

"I know this doesn't make up for not being able to walk across the stage," said PGCPS Chief Executive Officer Dr. Monica Goldson. "The Board of Education and I promise to do everything in our power to give you that moment once these restrictions are lifted."

This tribute to approximately 8,000 PGCPS graduating seniors will air on WJLA 24/7 News the same evening and on ABC7 at noon on May 31.

State's COVID-19 Decision Finalizes School Closure

Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Chief Executive Officer Dr. Monica Goldson directed that county schools remain closed for the rest of this school year, following State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Karen Salmon's May 6 announcement.

In her same-day response, Goldson acknowledged the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 outbreak, adding, "We support every step taken by State Superintendent Dr. Salmon to protect the well-being of all who enter our schoolhouse doors."

Distance learning continues,

with online teaching, lessons broadcast on PGCPS-TV and learning packets. Senior year will end on Friday, May 15. For other students the last day is Tuesday, June 16 and for teachers, Thursday, June 18. Before then, PGCPS will share plans for summer academic enrichment and goals for the fall.

PGCPS continues its grab-and-go meals program, offering free breakfast, lunch and supper. This program has served an estimated half million meals at nearly 50 sites throughout the county.

Co-op's New Insulated Roof Now Finished, Solar Next

by Dorrie Bates

After months of work through all kinds of weather, the installation of a new roof on top of the Co-op Supermarket building is finished. This represents the first phase of the Rays on the Roof project whose central component is a solar array that will generate approximately 264 kW of electricity, saving the Co-op an estimated \$37,000 a year.

According to Project Manager Steve Skolnik, the new insulation and roof membrane covering 19,000 sq. ft. are in place, all roof drain work is complete and the new roof hatch is in situ and functional. The last finishing work has been done. This involved installing flashing around the HVAC equipment and a green metal fascia on the main and lower canopy edges that gives a pleasing appearance from the ground.

Final inspection of the roof by Firestone (which makes the roofing material and guarantees its longevity) and Prince George's County Department of Permits, Inspection and Enforcement were successful. Skolnik pointed out that the pace of the work had

slackened noticeably due to the coronavirus pandemic but despite this, the inspectors still came out. Now the inspections are complete, the project moves to phase two – the installation of the solar arrays, though the virus is likely to impact this schedule also.

The Rays on the Roof campaign was undertaken to assist the Co-op in replacing its grossly outdated and seriously leaky roof and installing a 15,000-square-foot array of industrial-class solar voltaic panels providing a renewable energy source for the store. Both the roof and the solar array have matching 25-year lifetimes. The campaign was enthusiastically supported by the Greenbelt community and awarded a \$350,000 State grant in 2019.

Community Compost

The hot compost station near Springhill Lake Recreation Center is still actively collecting food scraps from current participants.

Email questions to greenbeltneighborhoodcompost@gmail.com.



Emilia Loo participates in dressed-for-success day during Greenbelt Elementary's Stay-at-home Spirit Week.



How to Reserve your Reel & Meal Picnic

Enjoy a special vegan meal as you Zoom in to the May 18 R&M program on Voter Suppression (see article on this page.)



Herbed Tofu Sub (with roasted red peppers, marinated cremini mushrooms, spring mix & garlic aioli), Lemon Dill Potato Salad and a Chocolate Chip Cookie.

- Before Sunday, May 17 at noon, visit www.toasttab.com/new-deal-cafe/v3
- Click on "Reel & Meal Vegan Meal" or click the arrow under "Choose a Menu" and then select "Reel & Meal."
- Add the number of meals you want, check out, and pay (\$12 plus tax per meal).

Your meal(s) will be waiting on the NDC front patio with your name and receipt attached on Monday, May 18 from 3 to 5 pm.

Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, www.greenbeltmd.gov/police
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Reckless Endangerment
April 30, 8:16 p.m., 9168 Edmonston Road. A 26-year-old resident was arrested and charged with reckless endangerment, assault, felon in possession of a firearm and other related charges by officers who responded to a report of a fight. An officer heard gunshots as he arrived and located a man in a nearby apartment. A witness positively identified him and he was arrested. A handgun was then located in his vehicle after a search warrant was carried out. Further investigation revealed that the man and another person were engaged in a verbal altercation when the man produced a handgun and fired shots into the air. He was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

May 6, 12:03 a.m., 9100 block Springhill Lane. A 39-year-old resident was arrested and charged with reckless endangerment after she allegedly fired warning shots during a verbal altercation with another person. No one was injured. The woman was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

Theft
May 2, 6:25 p.m., 5707 Cherrywood Lane. Three women approached a man and asked for a

dollar. As he opened his wallet, a large wad of paper currency fell to the ground. One of the women grabbed it and a struggle ensued before they fled. The man was not injured.

Vehicle Crime
A 1999 Toyota Corolla stolen from the 5900 block Springhill Drive was recovered the same day by Loudoun County Sheriff's Office on Waxpool Road and Pacific Boulevard in Loudoun County, Va., after being involved in a hit and run accident. A silver 2002 Jeep Cherokee with Maryland tags M83897 was taken from the 7600 Ora Glen Drive. A 2008 Chevrolet Silverado pickup truck taken from the 9200 block Springhill Lane on May 2 was recovered May 4 in the 6000 block Springhill Drive.

Four airbags were taken in the 7800 block Hanover Parkway after windows were broken out to gain access. Two tires on one vehicle were slashed in the 9100 block Edmonston Road and one tire was slashed in the same block the next night.

Money was taken from an unlocked vehicle in the 6800 block Damsel Court.

Vandals broke a passenger window in the 6114 Breezewood Drive and a driver's side window on Mandan Road near Canning Terrace.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter.

Call 1-866-411-TIPS.

People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 240-542-2145.

COVID-19's Pandemic Pluses A Pooch's Perspective

by Companio Nanimalito

This new virus is very rough on humans and the things that humans like. It has shut their cafés, their movie theaters and their restaurants and is a most regrettable threat to their health and happiness. Stores are out of much-loved human commodities, like toilet paper, eggs and English muffins (which, one notes, actually do not exist in the wild in England – though that is to digress). Dogs of course, being dependent for their livelihoods on humans, certainly encourage humans to wash their hands vigorously and practice social distancing.

This episode, though, is an entirely different experience for Greenbelt's dogs. Not catching the virus is a major plus, of course, though no dog would ever wish its human to suffer. What is so unexpected are the extensive and serendipitous dog benefits that flow naturally from human quarantine. Health, social and psychological benefits for dogs are wide-ranging. Indeed, one would expect the doggie counseling market to suffer from this boost to canine morale.

The one delicious word

that summarizes the bounty is: Walkies. Dogs around Greenbelt are ecstatic. In droves they are trotting proudly along with their owners, sniffing things that they have never sniffed, like a bird that is learning to fly. Their owners stand a leash-length away from each other arguing the benefits of facemasks and lamenting the dearth of test kits, while their dogs get to pal around. Play, socialize, perhaps even romp or chase a ball. And, instead of this being a once-a-day affair if one is a lucky dog, or just a quick run in the backyard for the less fortunate, it is happening multiple times a day.

As a result, dogs are fitter and brighter-eyed and have more spring in their step. Kibble tastes really great after a spin around the lake. Not only that, but instead of going into suspended dogmatism for hours a day or giving into the ever-present urge to tear up shoes, we have Mommy and Daddy there constantly. Imagine, head scratches on tap whenever the urge hits.

From a dog's point of view, even a pandemic has a silver lining.

Doorbell Camera Video Sharing Will Partner with Local Police

by Fred Edwords

Since the end of last year, the Greenbelt Police Department has become one of over 500 departments nationwide to join in a video-sharing partnership with Ring, Amazon's doorbell camera company. Touted by Ring as "the new neighborhood watch," their partnership program enables private doorbell cameras to become part of a community crime surveillance network.

This came to Greenbelt after the Static Watch Committee of the Windsor Green Homeowners Association contacted Ring around the middle of 2019 and put it in touch with the Greenbelt Police Department, which in turn appealed to the Greenbelt City Council. As the News Review previously reported: on December 9, 2019, council voted unanimously to allow the department to sign an access agreement. That agreement lets the police use Ring's Neighbors portal to engage with Greenbelt's Ring camera owners who use the Neighbors app, encouraging them to cooperate with police efforts to expose crime. In tandem, Ring makes the Neighbors app available free to residents and informs users of the police partnership.

In its promotional material, Ring draws attention to the public benefits of all this, such as creating open communication between the police and residents. Among the program's successes, Ring

cites "getting stolen guns off the streets" and tells how a "Virginia Beach family was able to quickly recover stolen medical supplies for their diabetic child after sharing a video of the package theft on the Neighbor app." In pursuit of such benefits, Ring offers group discounts on doorbell camera purchases to homeowners' associations and community organizations.

But the program has been criticized by more than 30 civil liberties groups nationwide. They warn that such an active network can turn neighbors into informants and brand innocent people as "suspicious" who may only be a little different from the mainstream, subjecting them to greater scrutiny and potential false accusations. As if to fend off such fears, Ring has discouraged police departments from using terms like "surveillance" and "security cameras" in their community public relations for the program.

Then there are issues of camera-owner privacy and independence. Ring points to its built-in safeguards, such as allowing camera users to decline to participate in the police program, and denying to the police direct knowledge of which users those are. But such safeguards aren't airtight. The law enforcement portal of the app, for example, lets the police know how many

Ring cameras have been installed in a given area. And if a crime is thought to have occurred in front of a given residence, the police can easily eyeball if a doorbell camera is in place there. If that address isn't part of the program, the police will quickly know it and request that the resident assist by supplying their video data. In such a situation, the resident may feel pressured to cooperate. Beyond this, camera users who automatically upload their recorded data to Ring's cloud have unwittingly placed it in reach of police, who can simply request that Ring provide it to them, even without the resident's knowledge or consent.

Finally, there is the matter of "tech voyeurism." Early this year the Washington Post surveyed over 50 owners across the country of various video camera systems, both indoor and outdoor, and found that a majority reported doing such things as analyzing neighbors, monitoring house guests and judging the job performance of those working inside the house or out.

In today's world of growing public surveillance and crime fears, efforts to increase safety through technology clearly come at a risk of decreasing individual rights. Hence politicians in all levels of government find themselves struggling to strike the right balance.

Many Trash Cans Are Closed: Take Fido's Droppings Home

by Melissa Sites

Some trash cans around Greenbelt have been covered and marked closed with city signs due to COVID-19. For example, one closed trash can is located at the playground near Hamilton Place and 38 Ridge, and another is at the playground near 2 Court Laurel Hill.

Luisa Robles, sustainability specialist for the City of Greenbelt, explained, "Some trash cans have been closed because they are harder to collect, while keeping workers safe." Collecting trash and recycling from homeowners at the curb is considered essential but, "for trash cans around the neighborhood, we expect people to take their waste home and dispose of it there."

left on the ground, it will contribute to the eutrophication of the Chesapeake Bay." Picking up the dog waste and carrying the waste home in a small container, and then flushing it, is one ecological way for dog owners to reduce their reliance on plastic bags and the landfill.



PHOTO BY IAN BLACKWELL ROGERS

Gaily colored poop bags sit on a closed trash can. Residents are urged to take Fido's excrement home with them and flush it.

Trash can closures mean that dog owners will need to dispose of their dogs' waste some other way. One possibility is to transport the dog waste home and flush it down the toilet. According to Robles, "Flushing it down the toilet is by far the most environmentally friendly thing to do. That way it gets treated in the wastewater plant. Otherwise, it goes to the landfill, or if it is

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Because the Community Center is closed, individuals wishing to make payments or submit advertising may drop their ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the building (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building). The office door, up a short flight of exterior stairs, is clearly labeled with a News Review sign. If a receipt is required, request it with the ad submission and provide a contact email address.

If the exact amount for the ad is not included or further information is needed, call the ad desk at 301-474-4131 or send an email to ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

RATES

CLASSIFIED: \$3.00 minimum for ten words. 15¢ for each additional word. Submit ad with payment to the News Review office by 8 p.m. Tuesday, or to the News Review drop box in the Co-op grocery store before 7 p.m. Tuesday, or mail to 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

BOXED: \$10 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$15). Deadline 4 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 8 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads.

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PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

My Perspective

Look Around: Now’s When Reptiles Come Out to Play

by Melissa Sites



PHOTO BY MELISSA SITES

This Rat Snake, also known as a Black Snake, is about four feet long. Quite the liquorice stick!

The City of Greenbelt is blessed with an abundance of wildlife. At this time in the spring, encounters between Greenbelters and reptiles are common. In the past week, I have encountered a four-foot black snake near the Northway streambed trail, a three-foot Eastern garter snake near Greenbelt Lake, a mud turtle crossing Greenbrook Drive and a snapping turtle crossing Crescent Road near the entrance to Buddy At-tick Park.

Reptiles are not speedy animals, so they are in great danger when they attempt to cross the road. My appeal to my fellow Greenbelters is to observe the speed limit of 25 to 30 mph in our residential streets, and slow down to avoid snakes and turtles when they venture out onto the road.

Three city employees, including a park ranger, came to our assistance as we attempted to help the snapping turtle cross Crescent. Do not ever try to pick up a snapping turtle! Their beaks are razor sharp and they can latch on if they bite you. They have very long necks and are very fast to strike. Do not pick up a snapper by the tail as this could injure them. Turtles on the move should be allowed to cross the road in the direction they are headed. Do not transport a turtle to a new location or try to “return” a turtle to the lake, as the lake may not be their home. Turtles are often slow, but they can travel more than a mile to lay their eggs.

Do not fear the snakes of Greenbelt, but likewise, do not touch them, as even nonvenomous snakes can easily bite, and



This Mud Turtle shows its deep disapproval of being handled by tucking itself as far back into its shell as possible.



A Garter Snake regards the visiting human with interest.
- Photos by Ian Blackwell Rogers

Coping with Corona

Greenbelters React

Not by Bread Alone, But by Bread

I decided to make the bread (with a bread machine) because it’s easier to make it than to tell a person how firm or soft I like my bread. I’m helping my Mom, who is in the high-risk category for the virus, and I don’t go to stores unless I really have to. We order groceries and everything else possible via internet, then usually have the items delivered. Occasionally I’ll pick them up outside the store. An additional benefit is that the smell of home-made bread baking makes me feel good.

—Laura Mann

You can’t see me smile!

This pandemic is so alarming. When I go out I can’t be charming. Shopping is not the same anymore. It’s in and out a different door. No one sees my dazzling smile. It’s covered by a new kind of style. Everyone has to wear a mask. And if not they’ll be taken to task. It’s mandatory for a while. But people don’t know I’m smiling when I pass them in the aisle. They say it’s the new normal, but how can I adapt. When my pearly toothy grin is hidden behind a wrap. I hope we’re safe by Halloween. Because masks on masks will be a scream.

—Donna Peterson

Making Music to Make The World Make Sense

Like the rest of us, we three (Bob Garber, Isobel Taylorlorch and Susan Taylor) are working hard to find expansiveness in our now-spatially-reduced world. We go on long walks together in our beautiful city of Greenbelt, make tasty meals and treats as balm for our souls, work in the garden, sew masks for workers in my mom’s dementia facility, work on art projects, read every book in our house that we never finished (Moby Dick, anyone?) and strive to stay happy together by moving out of each other’s way while no longer commuting farther than to the end of the bed or downstairs.

While Bob retains his librarian identity by answering reference questions and tutoring online for a local community college, and Isobel works to keep her corner of the Smithsonian running smoothly, I’ve recruited them to help me make videos to support the families I serve as a psychotherapist. I’ve transitioned to seeing some adult clients by computer, but another part of my heart’s work is serving families with very young children who are struggling with trauma, homelessness and parent-child attachment. So, if you see us out in the yard singing songs about why people are wearing masks or how much I like you no matter what you are feeling ... please wave, join in and sing along.

—Susan Taylor



PHOTO BY CHARLENE MANN

Making bread puts it all into perspective. Laura Mann uses a bread machine.

Pandemic Haiku

These haiku were written by Christopher K. Scherer of Parkway, who worked in the space program at Goddard from 1966 through 2001. He says that haiku are an engineer’s dream. As a three-line poem with 17 syllables, they are written in a 5/7/5 syllable pattern and he remarks that one can think them up and count on your fingers as you go. The haiku form emphasizes simplicity, intensity and directness of expression.

Walk through this valley.
Corona virus WILL end.
We’ll come to the Light.

Corona virus
Everything is closed. How long?
Some day – “Normal”? When?

—Christopher K. Scherer

What is COVID-19?

The News Review received the following note from Michael Jawer and his mother, Eveline Jawer. Michael is the city employee responsible for cleaning and maintaining Roosevelt Center. He is often seen with his portable leaf blower and it is to him we owe the good appearance of the Center. Jawer gives us this sage advice:

To all readers who are staying home and to whom it concerns:
What is COVID-19?
It is a virus that first was heard of in 2019.
Why are we getting it?
We love to have contact.
Is being in contact now bad?
No, love your neighbor as yourself.
Giving care to others is more important than ever.
This advice comes from me as your public servant in the Roosevelt Center.
Six feet apart from your neighbor is much appreciated.
Wear your mask and wash your hands.

Your neighbors and friends,
—Eveline and Michael Jawer



PHOTO COURTESY SUSAN TAYLOR

Susan Taylor makes a video to support the families she serves as a psychotherapist.